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Editorial

Annual General Meeting (AGM) is an important event for any organization to be held regularly in each year for the routine monitoring of overall progress to reach the ultimate goal. Considering this thing thoroughly, Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Society (BPS) has left no stone unturned to arrange AGM on a regular basis. But due to some obvious reasons, BPS could not arrange AGM for last few years. Now time has changed. It is a matter of great pleasure to inform all concerned that despite various difficulties, BPS, finally arranged the AGM on 09 March 2010 at Utsab-Banquet Hall of Radisson Water Garden Hotel. Most of the members of BPS attended in the meeting willingly and exchanged their views for the development of the profession. Programme was set with different segments and participants enjoyed a lot covering each and every event. Programme ended with thankful and joyous comment from the participants and committee members of BPS are very much hopeful about arranging this type of programme regularly and meeting the demand of 21st century for pharmacy community. Although huge numbers of Pharmacist participated in the occasion, some members and also newly passed Pharmacy Graduates were not able to participate due to their official responsibilities. For this reason current issue comprises different information of related to the Annual General Meeting of Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Society to provide them the facts of the occasion.

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The Newsletter of Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Society (BPS)

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Society (BPS) 2010

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Society (BPS) was held on 9th March 2010 at 4.30 p.m. at Radisson Water Garden Hotel, Dhaka. The meeting was held at Radisson hotel due to space constraint in the registered office premises of the Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Society (BPS) at 22 Dhanmondi, Road 2, Dhaka-1205. The Meeting was presided over by Mr. Md. Nasser Shahrear Zahedee, President of the Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Society (BPS). The Following resolutions were adopted unanimously in the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

1. The President of the Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Society, Mr. Md. Nasser Shahrear Zahedee, called to Annual General Meeting to order at 4.30 p.m. of Tuesday, 9th March 2010, at Radisson Water Garden Hotel, Dhaka. The President extended a warm welcome to the Members of BPS present in the AGM. He had also respectfully recalled the contributions of his predecessors past Presidents of BPS.
2. On request of the President, the Members present in the AGM expressed deep condolences to bereaved families of the Pharmacists who had left for their heavenly abode and as a mark of respect to them, all present stood in silence for one minute.
3. The Society's Report was placed by the General Secretary of BPS, Prof. Dr. Md. Habibur Rahman and after elaborate discussions on the report, the Society's Report of BPS was approved by the Members present in the AGM, unanimously.
4. The Finance Report including the Audit Report for the Year 2009 was presented to the AGM by the Finance Secretary of BPS Mr. Md. Mahbulul Islam and after elaborate discussions on the report, the Finance Report along with the Audit Report of BPS of the year 2009 was approved by the Members present in the AGM, unanimously.
5. The Budget of BPS for the Year 2010 was presented to the AGM by the Finance Secretary of BPS Mr. Md. Mahbulul Islam and after elaborate discussions on the proposed budget, it was approved by the Members present in the AGM, unanimously.
6. The AGM expresses great satisfaction that in the course of about last 8 years since 2002, BPS has come a long way by contributing to all facets of our profession including industry, community, hospital and academia.
7. The AGM expresses satisfaction to note that the CEC has resumed publications of the BPS Journal and The PharmaChronicle, the Society's newsletter.
8. The AGM expresses its profound thanks to the then CEC and the members of the BPS in the National Drug Policy Formulation Committee for having presented to the nation the National Drug Policy 2005. It was a great job done and the same has immensely contributed to the interest of the people and has also facilitated the ongoing progress of the pharmaceutical sector of Bangladesh. The AGM also expresses satisfaction in considering the fact that the issue of Article 13(1) of the Drug Control Ordinance (1982) was settled in peaceful and acceptable manner through necessary modifications in the National Drug Policy and amendments of the Drug Control Ordinance.
9. The AGM congratulate the immediate past CEC for successfully holding the National Pharmaceutical Congress in July 2006. This congress earned huge appreciation at home and abroad. The AGM urged upon the present CEC to hold another such congress in 2010.
10. The AGM urges upon the present CEC to strongly promote the services and benefits of Hospital Pharmacy system among the policy makers, health service officials and also to the students of Pharmacy and to take necessary measures for implementation of the hospital pharmacy system in Bangladesh. In this regard the AGM acknowledges with thanks the contributions of the CEC (1993-1994) for conducting the feasibility study on the development of hospital pharmacy system in Bangladesh in collaboration with the Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Association.
11. The AGM appreciates that the initiative taken by the immediate past CEC to run the Pharmacy Tutorial Course for the un-licensed pharmacy owners and candidates of Pharmacy Certificate Registration Examination. The scheme run in collaboration with the Bangladesh Chemists and Druggist Samity (BCDS) was a very pragmatic step and it has made a significant contribution towards developing the drug distribution system in the country. It has also given a great opportunity to the government to issue more than 40,000 (forty thousand) new licenses to the un-licensed retail pharmacies of the country. The AGM urged upon the incumbent CEC to continue with this foundation course as it will, in the long run, help to ensure the quality of health care in our country.





12. The AGM highly appreciates the efforts of BPS to pursue the Pharmacy Council of Bangladesh to introduce the registration examination for the Pharmacy graduates. This is considered as a significant breakthrough in the history of our profession in Bangladesh. The qualifying examination for registration will contribute to the assurance of quality of pharmacy education and will also ensure an optimum standard of the profession of Pharmacy in Bangladesh. The AGM urges upon the Pharmacy Council of Bangladesh to continue with the qualifying examination for registration.
13. The AGM noted with satisfaction that to promote quality pharmacy education and to encourage research activities, BPS has already distributed more than Taka 60 (Sixty) Lakh to different pharmacy departments of public universities. This is a very noble venture and the BPS should continue with such initiatives.
14. The Members were delighted to note that BPS also encourages academic excellence in the private universities. The AGM congratulated the CEC for having allocated Taka 15 (Fifteen) Lakh from its own fund for awarding felicitation medals to the Pharmacy graduates showing academic excellence in both private and public universities.
15. The AGM congratulated the immediate past CEC for having convinced the government to incorporate BPS representatives in different drug regulatory committees of the government. However, the AGM noted with regrets that still there are committees where BPS is not represented or inadequately represented.

The AGM, therefore, urges upon the government to include adequate number of BPS representatives in all of the committees related to the pharmaceutical sector in particular and the healthcare services at large.
16. The AGM congratulates the government for having upgraded the Directorate of Drug Administration to Directorate General of Drug Administration with expanded an organogram. BPS would strongly demand that the recruitment rules should be set in a way so that the Pharmacists get the appropriate opportunities to serve with their professional competence at all of the technical positions of the Directorate General of Drug Administration. The AGM requests the incumbent CEC to take all possible measures in this regard.
17. The AGM expresses its appreciation and thanks to the manufacturers who have been manufacturing quality medicines with the professional services of the Pharmacists

and urged upon them to appoint more and more Pharmacists to take our pharmaceutical sector further ahead to the standard set by the World Health Organization. The AGM expresses strong caution to the manufacturers engaged in the manufacture of sub-standard or spurious drugs and reiterated that stern professional actions will be taken if any Pharmacist is found to be involved with such malpractices. The AGM asked the Pharmacists to strictly adhere to the ethical practices and hold the professional standard to its highest level.

18. The AGM expresses deep satisfaction and congratulates the immediate past CEC for having registered the BPS under the Societies Registration Act 1860 with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms [Registration No: S-8683 (704)]. This was a long overdue task accomplished after about 37 years of inception of BPS.
19. The AGM strongly recommends to the Pharmacists that apart from our conventional role as industrial Pharmacists, we should also concentrate on dispensing of drugs, management of patients and rational drug therapy in the community pharmacy and hospital pharmacy set up. The AGM strongly urges the government to create a separate cadre service for the Pharmacy profession and thereby generate job opportunities for the Pharmacists to render their professional services in the hospitals, medical stores and depots, regulatory bodies, teaching institutions and in all other relevant functions.
20. The AGM stresses upon the incumbent CEC to further enhance the bondage and relation of BPS with the international bodies including the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), Commonwealth Pharmacists Association (CPA), South-East Asian Regional Pharmaceutical Forum, etc.
21. The Annual General Meeting strongly feels that the pharmacists should be active and united in upholding the cause of Pharmacy profession in Bangladesh aiming at enriching the health services provided to the people of the country. The AGM also urges upon the Central Executive Council of BPS to take necessary steps in this regard and to institute appropriate measures against any person known to have committed any activity contrary to the interest of the Society.
22. It is recommended to submit the above mentioned resolutions of the Annual General Meeting to the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms, Bangladesh.



BPS Representatives in International Seminar



An international seminar on Educating Future Pharmacists for Patient-centric Service & Research was organized by National University of Singapore from 15 – 16 April 2010 to celebrate 105th year of Pharmacy Education in Singapore. In this seminar Professor Dr. Md Abdur Rashid, Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy, Dhaka University & Former General Secretary, Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Society, Professor Dr. Md. Habibur Rahman, Chairman, Department of Pharmaceutical Technology, Dhaka University & General Secretary, Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Society and Mr. Muhammad Mahbulul Haq, Assistant Secretary, Pharmacy Council of Bangladesh & Organizing Secretary, Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Society participate on behalf of BPS. The seminar was sponsored by FIP and SEAR Pharm Forum.

National Health Policy

A meeting of the national committee to formulate the National Health Policy was held on at the conference room of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. Prof. Dr. A. F. M. Ruhul Haque, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare chaired the meeting. The meeting was also attended among others by Prof. Dr. Syed Modasser Ali, Hon'ble Adviser to the Prime Minister on Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and Ministry of Social Welfare, Capt. (retd) Dr. Mozibur Rahman Fakir, Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Mr. Shaikh Altaf Ali, Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Prof. Dr. Shah Monir Hossain, Director General of Health Services, Maj Gen Md Abul Kalam Azad, Director General of Drug Administration. Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Society was represented by the President of BPS, Mr. Md. Nasser Shahrear Zahedee.

Pharmacists Save Euro 850 Million in the Health Insurance Costs in Germany

It has been reported in a document of the Federal Ministry of Health of Germany that with the initiative of the pharmacists to implement a discount system, the statutory health insurance (GKV) of Germany saved around Euro 850 Million in the year 2009. This move has been appreciated internationally as a pivotal example of the role of pharmacists in reducing health service costs and also in the rationalizing the use of medicines.

Could Bangladesh learn a lesson from here ?

Congratulation to Prof. Dr. Md. Abdur Rashid



Professor Dr. Md. Abdur Rashid, Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy, Dhaka University & former General Secretary, Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Society, has been awarded the Abdur Rob Chowdhury Memorial Gold Medal for the year 2005-2006 for extraordinary research achievement in Biological Sciences. He has already published more than 250 papers in different scientific journals including more than 150 papers in international journals. He also listed as one of the most productive leading scientists of the OIC member states in 2007-2008 with highest point among the listed scientists within University of Dhaka. We hope they will contribute a lot towards the development of pharmaceutical sector in future like earlier.

Orientation of Pharmacy Certificate Registration Course



Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Society (BPS) in collaboration with Bangladesh Chemists and Druggists Samity (BCDS), introduced pharmacy foundation course since 2005. The orientation programme of 39th batch of Rajshahi Branch was inaugurated on 1st July, 2010 by Mr. Md. Nasser Shahrear Zahedee, President BPS. Mr. A. H. M. Khairuzzaman Liton, Mayor, Rajshahi City Corporation and Prof. Dr. Md. Anwar ul Islam of Rajshahi University, Vice President, BPS were present in the occasion as Chief Guest and Special Guest respectively. Both quality and quantity of the successful candidates have improved significantly by this course. We believe this, in the long run, will help to ensure the quality of health care in our country.

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